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ORAL HYGIENE



JANUARY
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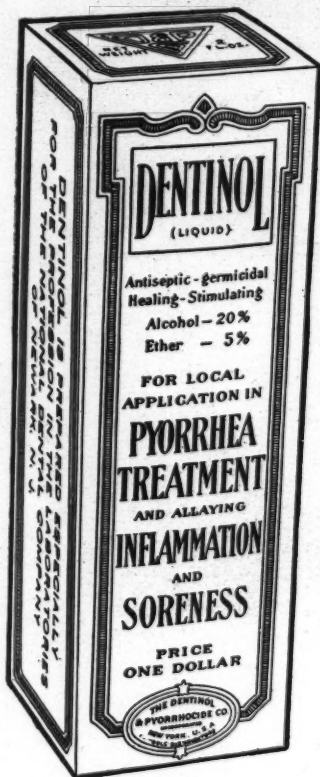
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In this issue of ORAL HYGIENE

DR. FRANK FITZPATRICK wrote the Philadelphia articles which appeared in July and August ORAL HYGIENE. These were credited with having noticeably stimulated attendance at the Dental Congress. This was ORAL HYGIENE's intention in commissioning Dr. Fitzpatrick to cover the subject. Meanwhile he has made a flying trip to Europe, and, returning, has contributed a two-part serial about his trip. The first installment appears in this issue and has been illustrated with photographs taken by the author—

- A DENTIST'S TRAVELOQUE OF EUROPE..... 14
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DENTAL HYGIENE

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FOUNDED 1911

JANUARY, 1927

Vol. 17, No. 1

RAL HYGIENE, entering its seventeenth year, wishes its legion of readers health and contentment—one needs little else. Blessed with well-being and a serene mind—feeling fit by day and sleeping soundly at night, you can manage to be pretty happy.

A Dentist's Trav

By FRANK FITZPATRICK



IN all this confusion about war-debts, reparations, cancellation and funding, everyone had a chance to say something and nearly everyone did. The babble is still endless, but the shrewd observer can detect that certain gentry had an advantage in the game. No matter what position such a combatant took, whether he favored cancellation or payment in full, he had his antagonist "by the hip" when he announced superiorly, "I have been abroad and I know." Now this sort of thing is not argument, but it always has been decidedly impressive. One is forced in self defense either to change the subject or to go to Europe.

It is simply astounding, this magic wisdom which may be garnered abroad, and with such rapidity too.

Not long ago a physician of my acquaintance went abroad for two months and announced through the newspapers on the eve of his departure, that he intended to devote his time in Europe to a study of medical problems as well as finance and agriculture. Fancy that! and all in two months.

Yet such fellows come back and pontificate endlessly on the cultural influence of the Swiss type on the Jugo-Slavs, or the

In Paris some attention is paid to the human mouth, not only what goes into it at meal time, but also to the machinery itself. Here one does not see the dental structures in that horrible state of neglect which is so noticeable in London.

effect of the income tax on the Breton peasant, or the probable political results of the occupation of Trieste, or the consequences of champagne drinking on the European mandible. There is no subject on which he will not discourse and no subject on which he is not an authority. He has been to Europe and (doesn't it follow?) he knows.

It is just this sort of dogmatism which is, more than governmental policies, the real reason for the dislike in which the American is held abroad.

He believes that he is the superior representative of a superior race. He feels that he can master European finance in two days, although its intricacies at home are beyond him. When he has changed a ten dollar bill for a handful of francs he has learned all there is to know.

Agriculture? It is studied enroute from Calais pier to the Gare du Nord.

Medicine? A taxi drive down the Boulevard St. Germain past

av ue of Europe

S., Philadelphia, Pa.



The author and his party, taken in Paris. From the left, Dr. Frank Fitzpatrick, John Sigerson and Joseph Fitzpatrick.

the Ecole de Medecine and Paracelsus occupies the cab. His mental attitude is reflected in his face, in his actions, but he is thinking, not of the French or of medicine or of finance or of agriculture, but of how impressive he will be when he returns home and states with unbearable complacency; "I have been abroad and——," but one has already fled.

One flees to the nearest steamship agent and emerges with a handful of "literature" and a steamship reservation. A study of the pamphlets and we are gone. Our defences have collapsed at the first broadside. We have it now. The travel lust. A weird malady characterized by cold sweats, intermittent fevers, hallucinations and a vacant stare. Should we take a trunk?

Is the passport safe; the identification photos for the Paris police? How about razor blades? A remedy for seasickness is absorbed and quickly forgotten. Our heads buzz. Piccadilly, Place Pigalle, Boul' Mich', High Holborn, boat trains, steamer rugs, francs, first class, third class, customs inspection. Oh well! or was that a stronger expletive?

Sailing day comes eventually. The schedule calls for it and time and tide wait for no man. Ships wait only for the tide or United States Senators. At last we are heading for Europe. We are on the way to become authorities on all subjects known to man. We already begin to picture the added weight which our opinions will carry henceforth. We are on the road

to becoming paragons. We have been abroad.

Say what one will; there is something in Paris which stimulates the spirit and liberates the ego. I quote from a letter to a friend written after my return. I include it here because it sums up the emotions which one American tourist experienced in Paris. No guide-book cataloguing of "points of interest" can do more than present the reader with facts which after all are as distasteful as yesterday's potato. I descend to a more personal narrative to avoid such necessity:

"I don't know what you got out of Paris, but I know that I got out of it one supreme emotion and many smaller and less important ones. I was not stimulated by the beauty of the city, although I admit it was beautiful. Its history and that unnamable emotion aroused in many by proximity to places where important battles were fought or treaties signed or Saints hallowed gave me no more thrill than having a taxi driver understand my pronunciation. Its art? I saw but little and that failed to impress me. Its liquor? Yes. Its ladies? Yes, yes. Its tolerance? There you have the meat in the cocoanut; the charm, the lure that Paris is to me.

"I am not a novelist. My command of words is meagre enough for the ordinary purposes of life and description of the most rudimentary emotion is a task that is beyond me. So

I hesitate to attempt to convey to you the emotion that Paris gave.

"For the first time in many years, if not in my life, I felt that I was free: free to do what I wished, to say what I wished, to wear what I wished, to eat and drink what I wished, to show even the emotions that I wished. I lived. For a fortnight I was myself. I had to please no one, nor did I need to be kindly when I felt like a dyspeptic banker after a bad day at the ticker. I did what I wanted to do and did not what I did not care to do. I felt no obligation to go places where I did not care to go, merely that I might talk of it when I got home.

"I am perhaps one of the only three Americans who visited Paris this summer who did not go to the Louvre. The guide book states that L'Eglise Sacre Coeur is an architectural abomination and I thought it was lovely and didn't care what the guide book stated. I went there three times. I was in Notre Dame and thought it unimpressive, merely old rather than beautiful. I thought L'Arc de Triomphe was magnificent but that the tomb of the unknown soldier beneath it was a monstrosity of which even Main Street would not be guilty. I thought the Madeleine was magnificent and that it was marred only by the tourists. I liked the Bois de Boulogne, the Tuileries, the boulevards, Versailles and Fontainebleau, the pa-

rade of the *filles de joies* on the streets at night, the sidewalk cafes and most of all the fact that I did not need to react to any of these things like a puppet but that I could be myself.

"Two hours after I arrived in Paris I was sitting at a sidewalk cafe in the Rue Royale drinking beer and thrilling exultantly to a new sense that even then was beginning to envelop me. From that moment until I left Paris I was always conscious that I was free, and now that I look back upon it I know that it was true; I was free. Today I am the mountebank again; an affable pretender. I lie with a smile and prevaricate with all the conventional phrases. I am again "doing the right thing" and thereby I win the approval of my neighbors, for I reaffirm their own virtues. I am a domestic paragon, following no weird illusions, inspired by no ridiculous desires to traipse abroad, grinning at fools who ask me silly questions about my trip, saying yes where yes is expected and no where no is proper, going through a daily round as circumscribed as a carrousel's, lost again in the idiotic business called life.

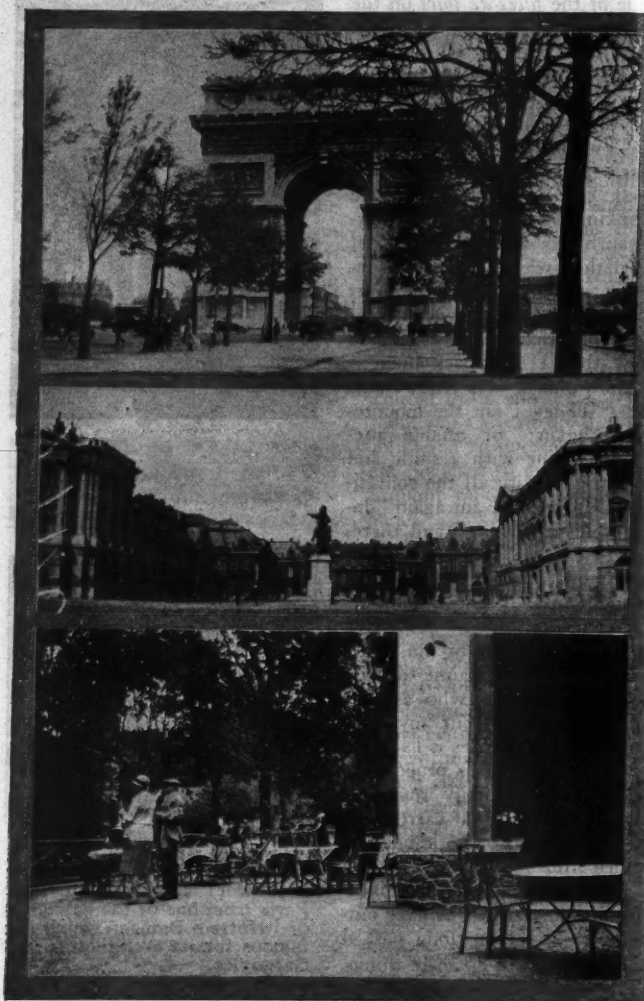
"But once, and already it is beginning to take on the hazy outlines of something long past, I did not need to do these things, once my soul as well as my mind was free. It was not just because I could sit at the Cafe Royale under the plane trees and drink beer and look at the



(Upper) The beautiful Madeline of Paris.

(Lower) Looking out over Paris from one of the balconies of Notre Dame, which is famous for its architecture and Gargoyles.

stars or the boulevardiers, not because I could go to bed at four and get up at twelve, not for any material reason, but be-



(Upper) The beautiful setting of the famous Arc de Triomphe situated on the Avenue de la Grand Armee, Paris.

(Center) The wonderful palace of Versailles.

(Lower) One of those inviting outdoor French Cafes. This one is in the Fontainbleau forest.

cause I sensed that in this city I could wear tan shoes with evening dress and not be immoral. I could parade the streets in pajamas and a high hat and no one would care. There were no boosters, there was no uplift. Our moral censors were absent and therefore with the forces of "righteousness" unorganized or non-existent the individual had

a chance to be an individual and not an automation."

That was one man's reaction to Paris. I have heard others. Travelers dispute as to the merits or faults of the city and personal experiences without number are presented to bolster or destroy the opponent theory. Everyone talks of Paris and almost everyone goes there—eventually.

Dr. Fitzpatrick continues his journey in February
dry ORAL HYGIENE.

\$1,750.50 for ORAL HYGIENE Florida Fund

The ORAL HYGIENE Florida Fund, for the relief of dentists made destitute by the storm, has closed with a total of \$1,750.50. The magazine sent a total of \$750.50 to the Florida State Dental Society which itself voted to appropriate \$1,000 for the ORAL HYGIENE Fund. The State Society and component societies joined in raising the thousand dollars mentioned.

"We appreciate your spirit in launching this campaign," writes Dr. R. M. Sheetz, president of the Florida State Dental Society, "Our Society wishes to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the subscribers to this Fund, and to ORAL HYGIENE, for what they have done in the interest of the unfortunate storm sufferers."





How Did It Happen?

By C. EDMUND KELLS, D.D.S., New Orleans, La.

HOW Did it Happen?*" got a rise out of our readers, but in the letters received no one really did guess all the facts:

Case No. 1. The end of the root-canal was sealed with a piece of carbolized orange wood about one-eighth of an inch long.

Once this root end was so sealed, cement could be packed into the root-canal "to beat the band"—it could not go beyond the seal.

Of course, the apical seal—orange wood—is radiolucent, consequently, when looking at the film, *one who does not know* will naturally say that the apex was not filled.

Case No. 2. This root was impossible to me, so I extracted the tooth, placed the filling in the root-canal while the tooth was in my hand, filled the cavity in the side of the root with amalgam, and replanted. That was all there was to that.

Case No. 3. Was just exactly like No. 2. Replanting turned the trick.

This tooth was replanted in March, 1923. Absorption of the root has progressed *unusually* rapidly and it will not last much

longer. I call this case a failure. A replanted tooth should last more than five years in order to be considered a success, from my point of view. Lots of them last for fifteen years and more.

In July, 1925, a young girl came to me saying that her dentist wanted to extract a right upper first molar and the first bicuspid, because they were abscessed, and she did not want to have them "pulled."

An examination showed these teeth to be apparently only ordinary pulpless teeth; no reason in the world why the abscesses couldn't be cured, and to cut a long story short, I undertook to fill these root-canals for her.

With the bicuspid I got along fairly well, but I must say that I did not get much of a "kick" out of the molar. The distal root, at the start, did not look good in the picture. However, it (with the other canals) was filled in the conventional manner—that is, with an iridio-platinum wire and puscure. The final film made me think that the canal filling would "get by," and the incident was apparently closed.

I saw her from time to time, and all went well until one day in August last when she came in and said, "I feel a little wire

*September ORAL HYGIENE, 1926, page 1664.

sticking out of my gum here," and with that she placed the end of her finger over that upper molar.

"Wire?"

"Yes, a wire."

"Oh, that can't be possible, just take the chair and let me see."

She took the chair. I ran my finger over the spot in question, and, Gosh! there was the end of the wire sticking out of the gums sure enough!

Now wasn't I in a devil of a fix? This root end had been absorbed and the process over it too—that is, if there was any there when I filled the root, which I now doubt. Of course the tooth was doomed—should be extracted—but in the fix I was in, I could not take the tooth out myself, and I'd be hanged if I'd send her to any

exodontist and have him see that rotten job of mine if I could help it. Come now, friends, would you have done so?

So I made up my mind that I'd try to get that wire out if it was the last act, which, considering my handicap, I feared that I would not succeed in doing.

However, the fates were with me. I dug out the cement and then rooted and rooted and rooted till suddenly—oh joy—I got that d—— wire out.

Then I was satisfied, in fact quite pleased with myself, for I could now send her to an exodontist to have the tooth out without his finding that lovely root-canal filling sticking out in her mouth.

Now I am not asking anyone to tell me howin'el this happened. I am perfectly willing to dismiss the subject.

Beginning Next Month

Dr. Kells, in addition to his regular articles, will conduct a new department for ORAL HYGIENE—

"Facts and Fancies Down in Dixie."





THE average dental graduate reminds us somewhat of a person who was taught to swim on land and after having mastered the various primary strokes, finds himself thrown suddenly into the water. If, in his bewilderment, he pauses to look around to select the shore he desires to reach and to estimate the distance, regulating his strokes accordingly, to conserve his energy, he might, with his previous training, reach his goal, and emerging, justly consider himself a swimmer.

The dental graduate finds himself thrown out into the business world, schooled only in the technical side of his intended profession. If he is to survive, he must pause to set his goal and regulate his endeavors to that end.

With the swimmer as with the dental graduate, the matter of reaching his desired destination rests solely with the individual. Of course, some passing boatman might rescue the swimmer—and they might find oil on the graduate's old home place, but such instances are rare. Rely upon your own resources. Don't wait for the lucky chance.

Assuming the graduate selected the proper goal, it is several years before he can expect to reach it. He has more time for consideration and more opportunity to regulate the trend of his actions and endeavors as he progresses. That we must progress in order to reach the

Set then Work

By MURRILL A. HANN

goal, is evident, but to progress we must continue to study our particular line of endeavor constantly. Not only study the technical side but analyze and carefully consider each and every other phase that may have any connection whatsoever with our fundamental purpose.

In order to apply the technique and skill, the graduate has yet to learn about the business side of his profession.

From a practical point of view his profession can justly be called a business. Aside from the ever-present ethical consideration of the dentist in his duty to humanity, it would assume all the aspects of a business in all of its forms.

The dentist having equipped himself along technical lines, has a service to render. There are his "prospects" or patients who are in the market for such services. Next in order is the method by which the dentist can secure a market for his services.

The young professional man usually secures his first patients from his acquaintances and friends, who, after being served satisfactorily, do not hesitate to recommend him favorably to their friends who may be in need of such services. He would

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ANNington, West Virginia

do well to see that he always conducts himself properly in his community and maintains a high quality of character, thus making him acceptable in the best of society. After confidence has been established in him by way of social contact his list of acquaintances and friends will increase. They will have confidence in his ability to render them satisfactory professional services.

To retain a desired patronage, once it has been established, it is primarily necessary to keep in line with all improvements and late developments in the operative and technical end of the profession. Keep abreast of the practical side also if you are to succeed.

It is true a dentist is an office man inasmuch as his practice is carried on at a central place of operation and he does not leave his office in search of business. His prospective patients must call to see him and it is at this time that the dentist should display his personality, salesmanship or persuasiveness. To do this, he must not only convince the prospect of the need of certain services and their benefits, but he should be able to converse intelligently with his patients while performing the

services. Conversation will help keep the patient's mind diverted from sensing ostensible pain. He should be well-read, especially on current topics. Each patient may bring up a new subject to discuss and here the dentist should be a diplomat and refrain from expressing too forcefully, if at all, his personal opinion on matters that might not coincide with that of his patient's, thereby avoiding arguments.

The powers of an attractive personality are unlimited, and of great value to a professional man. The ability to make and retain friendships is an accomplishment within itself, aside from its benefits as an asset in the profession.

It may be interesting to note that in the writer's town of approximately one hundred thousand people, the mayor was a practicing physician. The Industrial Director of the Chamber of Commerce was a practicing dentist. The physician was the only one of the candidates of his party to be elected to any office in either the county or city, as the election was, with his exception, a landslide for the opposing party. His friends, which he had acquired through his practice, undoubtedly kept their confidence in him.

The Industrial Director of the Chamber of Commerce was selected, not for any political reason, but for his ability to fill the position, regardless of any political alignment. His duties are to interview various manufacturers and persuade them to

build their factories in this city. This position requires a man of great personality. Evidently the dentist was qualified for this position by the training of his personality while practicing dentistry. He has the confidence of our entire city.

One of our present city commissioners who was a druggist and a practicing physician has recently entered as a candidate for senatorship in the coming election.

In this locality the professional man is invariably elected to any office for which he may be a candidate, irrespective of politics. This fact is due to the many friends made while practicing the profession and who have confidence in him for any honorable undertaking and could not be attributed to party affiliations.

Modern equipment is necessary as was no doubt taught you. Modern methods in the procedure of each and every phase of your practice are also needed.

You are the factory, the

labor, the sales manager and the business manager of your practice and unlike the business organization, which has an executive at the head of each department to account for any unfavorable conditions, if any of your particular departments should not function properly and produce the desired results, you have only yourself to blame.

Economic conditions do not affect your market acutely and do not affect the number of your prospects, so if business does not come your direction, it is time for you thoroughly to investigate and call to account the head of your departments, who is yourself.

Carefully study and analyze the problems confronting your practice and adopt a method for handling them and keep increasing your knowledge along every line if you wish to succeed. Every side, no matter how irrelevant it appears, has its affect upon your practice. Keep your various departments working in harmony and in unison for a common cause—your profession.

Beginning Next Month

A new series by John Bell Williams, Ph.G., D.D.S.,—"Suggestions for the Writing of Dental Papers."



Why Not National Reciprocity?

By S. L. JEFFRIES, D.D.S., Gaffney, South Carolina

MUCH has been said and is still being said on the question of dental reciprocity. It seems that most dentists are content with their own fields of endeavor and have no desire to broaden out into a wider frontier. In view of this fact, it might seem futile to advocate an equitable law on general National reciprocity.

The dental profession has already, in effect, the principles of national reciprocity, and doesn't know it. The National and State dental associations have charge of all laws regulating the practice of dentistry in the United States. All laws pertaining to dentistry have been passed at the instigation of the National or State associations. Each State has its own District societies and State associations, the members of which in turn belong to the American Dental Association. Thus the dental profession is linked together as an endless chain.

Can it be honestly said that a member of the National association in good standing has no right to practice in territory covered by this same National

association? Would any individual claim he has no right in such premises?

No doubt if this matter was given a fair test in the Supreme Court of the United States today, the decision would be that a man who is in good standing with the American Dental Association had passed all the requirements to practice under the domain of "Old Glory."*

A.D.A. Controls

If the writer understands the matter correctly, the American Dental Association even regulates the various dental schools and colleges, and those not coming up to the standard are graded accordingly; and if under the requirements of a first-class school, their destiny is oblivion or else bring the school up to the proper standard. The principle being that no secondary dental school can flourish.

After graduating from such efficient schools that have been regulated by the American Dental Association, the student is further required to pass a satis-

*The Supreme Court of the United States has already gone on record and refused to review state dental legislation in the case of the Pennsylvania State Board vs. Petry et al.—Editor.

factory State examination under a board belonging to the same National association. Thus, again we meet face to face the moral aspect, if not the legal, that National reciprocity is the only honest, just and righteous means for regulating the practice of dentistry.

"Equal rights to all, special privileges to none." Who is it but a traitor to all principles and causes that will deny these words or act conflictingly?

The tale has been told of a certain dentist who practiced for patients of means and whose patients wished to migrate from one state to another, and in this case only for the winter months. The dentist, of course, was very lonely.

At nights he would dream of their smiling faces, and would say, "Peace, peace, be still, I will soon be through [the operation]," and his semi-conscious mind pondered over the magnificent fees he was to receive. Finally he turned over, raised up in bed in utter agony and said: "O, Lord, if it be Thy will may I be delivered from this terrible calamity."

The next morning the dentist arose much before the usual time and put on unusual alertness, and meeting the postman said, "Good-bye, I am going to a distant state to follow my beloved patients." He departed in a mind of uneasiness for he knew he had to stand a rigid examination on obsolete as well as modern dentistry.

He appeared before the board

of examiners only to be "flunked," as no doubt the policy of this board was to fail the greater per cent (seventy-five per cent) of the applicants. Is not such a practice of this board inconsistent, condemnatory of the State and National associations to which they belong, and also of the colleges from which they graduated?

Think of the few requirements necessary when real estate men, insurance men, farmers, contractors, plumbers and people of other occupation wish to cross a state line to follow their pursuits of life?* For that matter, think of the few requirements necessary when our patients wish to migrate to another State for peaceful occupation? If I understand it rightly, it is not even necessary for them to be free born American citizens, for foreigners can cross the lines of any of the States to follow most occupations. We have only a few occupations in which the workers are subjected to embarrassment and humiliation when they wish to cross a State line—the great, broad-minded professional classes. In other occupations all that is necessary is a railroad ticket or a "tin lizzie."

Is this "equal rights to all and special privileges to none?" Does it mean separate and independent States pinching and annoying each other at their own pleasure? If the dental profession is united and linked togeth-

*All of these occupations except contractors must now have either state or city licenses.—Editor.

er as an endless chain, how far off is a member in practicing anywhere in the United States? Furthermore, if a member of the dental profession wishes only to practice some specialty of dentistry, why should he be required to stand examination on the whole curriculum of dentistry, if any examination at all, when he decides to cross a State line? Why should he be debarred from making a living because he doesn't wish to practice all his profession? Why should he be required to be technically familiar with that part of dental literature and material which gives him no concern? The dentist has once passed on both the superfluous and necessary knowledge when he graduated from dental college and obtained a license, and why should he be required to kill his efficiency in his particular line by having to keep posted on knowledge foreign to his specialty? Oftentimes it has been said that, "A Jack at all trades is good at none," and it can reasonably be supposed that knowledge superfluous to the specialist is a hindrance. Beyond the knowledge of sociology and morality, the specialist only needs such knowledge as directly bears upon his specialty. Should the specialist in artificial dentures be debarred from such practice on account of not remembering the reaction between sodium chloride and sulphuric acid? Thus can be seen the nec-

essity of a national reciprocity law.

What Good is a Diploma?

What is a dental diploma and license worth anyway? You have passed the endless chain of all the requirements of dental knowledge when a license has been secured. You have passed the standardized dental college, the standardized board of examiners, the State and National associations. Thus, you belong to the national endless chain of dentistry. If this be true, how far does your diploma and license reach? Should it stop at a State line, or should it go to the very borders of our country?

Why should we oppose National dental reciprocity? Is it because we are afraid of our hold upon the people? Are we afraid that some dentist will shoulder our practice, and run us out? Are we afraid to meet honest competition regulated by a National law? Are we afraid that we must inform ourselves on dental subjects a little further, or else the informed dentist will be our competitor?

In my opinion, a National reciprocity law is imperative, and that there is no basis for opposition for such a law. That such opposition has only an imaginary foundation is evident, indeed; and if selfish interests are left out of consideration, even the imaginary opposition fades into insignificance.

Minute Meditations

By MASS

What's happiness?

"It's laughing," says a little child.

And perhaps it is.

But the old folks in the chimney corner, what do they say? "Happiness is contentment," they murmur slowly, quietly.

And perhaps it is.

But what of you and me? Childhood is a fading memory. Old age is in the dim far distance, or so it seems. What face does happiness present to us?

The laughing face that children see—or calm contentment, at peace with all the world and all the people in it?

In all the ages, in all lands, man has pursued happiness, hurried breathlessly, reaching vainly. Since the sun first rose upon mankind, since the world of men began, the soul of man has groped for happiness—thought to hear the voice, long listened for, in the ringing tones of golden coins, turning thence to listen for it in gayety's wild cadence, seeming to draw near.

But happiness slips away, is gone in the darkness and the bruised soul of man, spent and weary, bewildered and perplexed, gropes on.

So goes the quest through all the marching years.

But perhaps the children know the secret place where happiness abides and perhaps the old folks do. For happiness is a state of mind—perhaps.

I do not know.

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A Dental Reminiscence

By ARTHUR ISAACS,
D.D.S., Brooklyn, N. Y.

IN an editorial entitled "Extraction of Teeth by Physicians" appearing in ORAL HYGIENE recently, the point was stressed and in my opinion rightfully so, that the surgery of the tooth belongs to dentistry alone.* It brought back memories of an incident which occurred about eight years ago, when I, a registered, practicing dentist, was almost thrown into the "brig" for the extraction of an aching upper molar.

In 1918, being unsuccessful in my attempt at gaining a dental commission, during the War, I, like hundreds of others, enlisted as a private in the medical corps. I was exceedingly fortunate in being assigned as assistant to a dental lieutenant, which gave me the distinguished title of private "first class" with an additional salary of three dollars per month. He sure was a prince, and in spite of the fact that he was my superior officer, I was treated with the respect and dignity of a fellow practitioner.

There was an extra chair and

we both operated, administering to the needs of nearly twice the number of men that we would have been able to care for otherwise, most of whom were in dire need of immediate dental attention.

One evening, while being initiated into the technic of the old army game "galloping dominoes" I was called to the bunk of one of my buddies, who was suffering most intense and excruciating pain from an aching molar. He refused to accompany me to the dental office, unless I assured him of the absence of my dental superior officer—the psychology reflected, being that, if I hurt him, since I was only a private he could swear and tell me just what he thought of me and *out loud*, but of course, with the superior officer he could only swear under his breath.

By coincidence, it so happened that my chief was out on "official business." Believe me, she sure was a "peach" and I didn't blame him in the least. I assured my wavering patient that we would be quite alone and he accompanied me to the office with a slow, hesitant and resigned step.

After examining the case thoroughly I decided upon extraction and proceeded to prepare the proper solution of novocaine. I injected slowly, trying to overcome the patient's obvious nervousness with diverting thoughts on army life. His

*Editorial, Page 1678, September 1926 ORAL HYGIENE.

confidence became more apparent each moment the anesthetic became more effective. I selected the proper forceps and was about to approach the offending dental culprit, when a stern, husky, authoritative voice emanated from the doorway, out of the mouth of my honorable medical top sergeant. His menacing attitude brought nothing else but evil forebodings and I stood in sickening silence, awaiting my fate.

He glanced at the forceps in my hand, searched for the bar on my shoulder and blustered forth that it was against army regulations for a private to perform dental operations. I was dumbfounded. There was no doubt that he was correct for he showed a book of army regulations to substantiate his statement. He added a couple of "furthermores," one of which was to the effect that the medical sergeant was the only non-commissioned officer, who could do emergency dental work, in the absence of the superior officer—*then immediately I saw the light.* I took the forceps which were still dangling nervously from my finger tips and placed them firmly in the hands of the "top kicker" and told him that according to army regulations he was entitled to do the work.

Such a complete metamorphosis I thought well nigh impossible in any human individual. If only a slow-motion picture could have been taken of the transition and handed down to scientific posterity! He suddenly became a shrinking violet, his hands trembled, beads of perspiration covered his forehead, and he became pale. I am sure that the steel of a bayonet just as close to him could not have brought a more complete physical reaction than the cold steel of that instrument. My poor patient, when he saw the turn of events, matched him a close second.

Our intruder tried to become articulate and found it impossible, placed the forceps on the tray and left the room as silently as he had entered.

I then extracted the tooth and felt that the thankfulness and glad hand of appreciation more than repaid me for any punishment that might subsequently be meted out to me.

The following day I was reprimanded by the Colonel of the post and told to discontinue dental operations in the future. But I had the last laugh on them—for a short time thereafter I received my commission and became a honest-to-goodness practicing dentist once more.

Coming—"Discussing Credit with Patients," by Murrill A. Hannan, who also appears in this issue in an article beginning on page 22.

Preventing Novocaine Gangrene

By C. L. NORMAN, D.D.S., Augusta, Georgia

NOVOCAINE gangrene from novocaine poisoning is an inflammation and gangrenous condition with final sloughing away of tissue, involving finger tips, similar to phenol poisoning.

This disease or condition is brought about by the constant use in handling solutions of novocaine. The practitioner sometimes uses it as long as two or three years, or longer, before becoming affected.

It begins by deadening nerve filaments, and you have a numb or dead sensation followed by itching, like heat. Following that, small heat pimples, which grow into blisters that last from three to five days, thereby forming a dermatitis, during which a serum or fluid is formed underneath the skin, and during which time the condition is very painful and burns like a burn from fire. After this the skin dies and becomes hard and aids in irritating the underlying tissues, which are raw and very much inflamed, finally developing into a gangrene.

Nails Slough Off

The nails become discolored

and have the appearance of being stained from a solution of silver nitrate, or a weak iodine solution, which is due to the death of the underlying tissues. If this goes to the root of the nail, it will die and slough off as if it had been bruised from a blow or other causes.

If this disease is not properly treated, it will continue to spread, extending to the hand between the fingers.

The fluid exudation from wounded surfaces is of a clear and then a golden color, followed by a bloody mixture, but never any pus.

Later the skin peels away, leaving the undersurface raw and in a highly inflamed and irritated condition. Surrounding the area the tissues are bleached and have the appearance of a burn. Then the affected part becomes as an ordinary sore, and is quite painful until all inflammation is gone, after which this skin becomes dry and very hard, gradually peeling away. After this the condition is practically well.

This disease or condition is brought about by the constant use in handling solutions of novocaine. The practitioner some-

times uses it as long as two or three years, or longer, before becoming affected.

How it is Acquired

Constantly using novocaine as we practitioners of dentistry use it, several times daily for extractions, some of the anesthetic gets on our fingers around the nails and is held under the nails and under the cuticle for several minutes at a time several times daily, keeping those parts anesthetized, so by being constantly anesthetized, the blood supply is held away. This causes death to the nerve terminals and the inflammation begins.

I have found no treatment entirely satisfactory. The best is the application of 10 per cent ammoniated mercury ointment, and it has been fairly satisfactory. Never apply heat or any astringent but treat as a burn. I find it aids greatly to expell

all fluid exudations from wounded parts.

It is very rare that there is any complaint of after pain following treatment, so the thing for us to do is to take warning and handle novocaine with rubber gloves. My advice to everyone using novocaine solutions more than once or twice a week is to use rubber gloves.

Dental practitioners are more apt to contract this disease than physicians for we use novocaine more frequently, in greater strength of solution, and it is the frequent user who suffers.

If you have become affected, discontinue the use of novocaine until you are well and never use it again without special precaution, using rubber gloves.

The writer trusts that the simple treatment outlined for this affection, together with the symptoms of diagnosis with precautionary note sounded as a warning in handling novocaine solutions, may prove beneficial to the profession.

Navy Dental Corps Examination

A competitive examination for appointment to the Dental Corps of the U. S. Navy will be held January 24, 1927, at the U. S. Naval Medical School, Washington, D. C. Appointees must be citizens of the United States, between 21 and 32 years of age at the time of appointment, which may be one or two months later than the date of completion of the examination. Applications to take the examination should be made in accordance with a form which may be obtained from the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., and must be accompanied by certificates of birth and citizenship, of graduation from an accepted high school or the equivalent, and from a dental school, and two or more letters testifying to good habits and moral character. The examination will be both theoretical and clinical, and the usual duration is from seven to ten days. No allowance can be made for the expense of persons appearing for examination.

The Dental Editor's Catechism

By THOMAS C. BONNEY, D.D.S.,
Aberdeen, South Dakota

Apologies to Dewey M. Owens in *Saturday Evening Post* for Sept. 4, 1920.



WHO occupied the most prominent place on the program?

ANS. Dr. Blank, one of the outstanding members of the dental profession in this country.

Q. Who IS Dr. Blank?

ANS. Dr. Blank is a member of the local, district, state, and national societies; past-president of the local society; past-president of the district society; president of the state society; president-elect of the national society; ex-member of the state board of dental examiners; specialist in diseases of the teeth, mouth and jaws, and winner of the annual golf trophy of the state society. He is an Elk, a Shriner, and a Moose; belongs to the Optimist and Lions clubs, being secretary of the latter club, and is a prominent church worker. He is also active in civic affairs, having served two terms as mayor of his home city.

Q. Do any but outstanding members ever appear on a program?

ANS. No.



Dr. Blank

Q. What kind of a paper was read?

ANS. A very brilliant paper.

Q. Are any but brilliant papers ever read at a dental meeting?

ANS. No.

Q. What kind of an audience was present?

ANS. A large and very attentive audience.

Q. Is the audience at any dental meeting ever anything but large and attentive?

ANS. No.

Q. Was the paper well received?

ANS. Dr. Blank's paper was

well received, and the doctor was frequently interrupted in his reading by spontaneous outbursts of applause from his delighted listeners.

Q. Are papers at a dental meeting always well received?

ANS. Yes.

Q. Where was the paper read?

ANS. In the auditorium of the De Piffle Annex.

Q. Was this a good place in which to read a paper?

ANS. The auditorium was an ideal place in which to read a paper. The acoustics were perfect, the lighting and seating arrangements all that could have been wished for, and the room was far enough removed from the clinics and exhibits to prevent annoyance from those sources.

Q. Are papers ever read in any other kind of a place?

ANS. No.

Q. How did it happen that Dr. Blank appeared on the program?

ANS. The profession of the

state was fortunate in having an opportunity to listen to Dr. Blank, whose appearance was made possible only through the untiring efforts of the program committee.

Q. Who was responsible for the success of the meeting as a whole?

ANS. The wonderful success of the meeting was due to the united efforts of the various committees.

Q. How was the meeting financed?

ANS. The financing of the meeting was made possible through the one hundred per cent payment of dues by members of the society. The secretary reported that all members were in good standing fully two months before the opening day of the meeting.

Q. How did the meeting compare with those of previous years?

ANS. The meeting was the most largely attended and most successful of any meeting in the history of the society.

Income Tax Questions Answered

ORAL HYGIENE readers in doubt as to income tax matters may question Mr. H. O. West, ORAL HYGIENE's income tax authority, writing him in care of ORAL HYGIENE, 1117 Wolfendale St., N. S. Pittsburgh, Pa.



Dr. Nathaniel G. Slaughter Addresses the Georgia Society



The following was extracted from an address given by Dr. Nathaniel G. Slaughter, president of the Georgia State Dental Society, before the fifty-eighth annual meeting at Savannah:

IN looking back over the almost quarter of a century that I have been a member of this body, it is with a great deal of pride that I say to you: we have made wonderful progress. We have lived to see dentistry take its place among the learned and scientific professions of the world. It is needless for me to tell you that the American Dental Association of which this is a component part, is the greatest of all dental societies. In making a survey of this Association we find that this Society has contributed more than her quota to the advancement of

dentistry. In looking back we find that Georgia has always had men high up in the councils of our profession, but never have we had so many outstanding men in American dentistry as we have today.

I would urge every member to keep in mind that the State Society is the most important from a statewide standpoint and in order to build it strong and substantial we must have strong component societies. Therefore, on the district societies depend the state and also the American Association.

The key-man in the district society is the secretary. He should be a man who is willing to give time and thought and enthusiasm and has the welfare of dentistry at heart. When you have a man of this type, you should keep him in office as long as possible. But it matters not how well our officers serve, they are dependent on each member to contribute his part.

It has been found that the men who attend the state meetings and the American Association's meetings regularly, are the men who are doing most for their local society.

Instead of not being able to

IDEALS are as essential to an increase in usefulness as is the sunshine to growth in nature, and the very law of existence in both nature and man is expressed in the one word—service. Everything in nature has its ministration, and when it ceases to be a blessing, atrophy begins.

Man expresses his greatness by his ability and willingness to serve. He cannot remain neutral in this great issue; he must either progress or retrograde, and only a true vision of life's possibilities yet unattained and confidence in his own soul can keep him encouraged to press forward. When he loses these, his grip on things slackens and his spirit broken, begins to settle backward and darkness gathers.

Dentistry is no exception to this law. The profession is divided into two classes—successes and failures; progressives and retrograders; workers and shirkers. Anyone can succeed who will set his standard high enough, and with honest endeavor strive by study and work to reach his goal. Men of renown in our profession have not reached their position by chance or luck, but by vision, work and determination. The path of least resistance is the easy way, but it is also the road to professional oblivion and a colossal failure in life.

Our beloved profession offers possibilities limited only by one's willingness to strive to attain. Get a vision for the future, and laying aside every hindering cause press forward toward the prize. In so doing you will find true happiness, and when life's sun is setting and the shadows gather, the peace of God will fill your soul with hope.

—NATHANIEL G. SLAUGHTER

attend, you might look at it this way, you cannot afford to miss a dental meeting if you would keep in touch with the progressive ideas that are constantly being brought forward.

Dental Health Education

Turning to the problems that confront us I am sure that pre-

ventive dentistry is the most important.

Our larger cities are making great strides along this line and the percentage of school children receiving dental attention is much larger than in former years. But it is to the smaller towns and the rural communities that we should turn our atten-

tion. These school children have had very little instruction in oral hygiene. I would suggest that our district societies take up this important work and volunteer their services wherever the opportunity arises. I would also recommend that the oral hygiene committee be given an appropriation from this society to carry on this work as it is almost impossible to accomplish much without funds. I would further suggest that we set aside one week to be known as Dental Health Week, at which time as much publicity as possible be given to preventive dentistry. The details should be under the direction of the oral hygiene committee.

In this connection I would recommend that our Legislative committee look into the possibility of placing a full-time dentist with the State health department, so that this work might be carried into every nook and corner of our great State. Georgia's greatest asset is her boys and girls. Each one of them has a right to know *the value of a healthy mouth, the danger of focal infection*, and that from the early loss of the temporary teeth or six-year molar they will be handicapped through life.

I believe that both as a Society and as individuals we have an excellent opportunity to serve our state.

Let's give to these boys and girls our every best,
The gifts will not be in vain,

They will measure large in the final test
And bring us four-fold gain.

Let us help them to develop into the attractive personalities that God would have them. Healthier, stronger, clearer minded, nobler, better and more useful citizens.

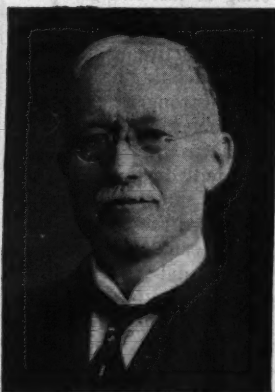
If we will do this, in a few years when most of us will be slipping down the western slope of life we can look with pride at our splendid citizenship and say, "I too had a part in rendering an invaluable service to mankind."

I wish to call your attention to the progress we are making in dental education. Our colleges now require one year pre-dental work before beginning the study of dentistry. Too much stress cannot be laid on the proper training of our men. If we are to move onward and upward we must require much of the young men coming into our ranks. I would like to see more of our men interested and working for the Hinman Research Medal.

Let us have and hold high ideals and press on and on with the men from all parts of the nation and climb to heights which no generation has yet attained.

Build today then strong and sure
With a firm and ample base,
And ascending and secure
Shall tomorrow find its place,
Thus alone can we attain
To those turrets, where the eye
Sees the world as one vast plain
And one boundless reach of sky.

ORAL HYGIENE



S. C. G. Watkins, D. D. S.,
Montclair, New Jersey

DR. WATKINS was raised on a farm in Canada and went to Boston when eighteen years of

age.

In June, 1871, he decided to study dentistry; not knowing anything at all about dental colleges or that there were any dental colleges in existence (in fact, there were only about six or seven in this country and they had only a dozen students each), he went around from one dental office to another in Boston looking for someone who would teach him the dental profession. He called at several offices and received nothing but discouragement, dentists telling him that they would never advise any young man to

ORAL HYGIENE has started a country-wide search for old-timers in the dental profession.

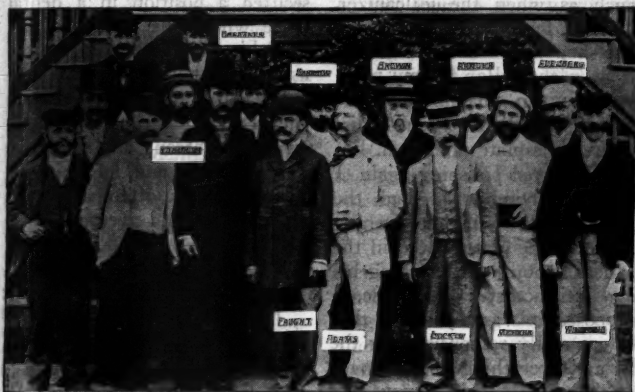
study dentistry, as there was nothing in it.

He finally succeeded in finding one dentist who would condescend to take him in as a student providing he would pay one hundred dollars in cash and work for six months for nothing and board himself. He settled the matter immediately with the agreement that he was to start the next day at eleven o'clock and was to be taught dentistry so that he could be turned out as a first class dentist at the end of six months.

We'll let Dr. Watkins tell it in his own way:

"The next day at eleven o'clock, I was in his office and had my first introduction to a laboratory and to a vulcanizer.

NE Old-Timers Series



This splendid old print, made 34 years ago, shows the officers of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Dental Societies, taken at Asbury Park in 1892. Whiskers were nifty in those days.

At a quarter past twelve, when the assistant went out to lunch, he left me in charge of the vulcanizer with instructions to watch it and vulcanize a partial plate. Well, I will tell you now in confidence, that I watched that vulcanizer very carefully but did not know what I was watching it for. I had the scare of my life when the safety valve melted out and the steam shot to the ceiling. If a motion-picture could have shot me at that moment, it would have been worth while. After a few moments I regained courage enough to go near the vulcanizer and turned off the gas. Upon his return, when he realized what had happened, he was not very choice in the language

he used in reference to my intelligence, but I was not irritated at all by what he said, as I supposed it was all my fault. However, he fixed up the case and got it in the vulcanizer again and then explained what he meant by having me watch it. Again I watched it. This time intelligently. After the plate was removed from the vulcanizer and trimmed up, he gave it to me to polish on an old United States lathe in front of an open window, which was one flight up from the street. It was not many minutes after I began to run that lathe, before my plate was whirled out of my hand through the window and down through an open iron grating that was over the area-

way of the cellar window of a shoe store directly under the office. That scared me just as much as when the vulcanizer blew off. I ran downstairs to the shoe-shop and asked permission to go in the cellar for my plate and you can imagine my surprise and delight when I discovered the plate unbroken. Before I started polishing again, I shut the window. I had the great satisfaction that evening of seeing the plate placed in the patient's mouth—everything being satisfactory. Of course, I supposed it was my work, that I was really responsible for the fit and everything about it, for at that time I didn't know that an impression had to be taken of the mouth in order to make the plate.

"One Sunday afternoon three weeks after I had started learning dentistry I was in the office with a chum when the office bell rang. On opening the door, a man and his wife asked if the dentist was in. I said he was. 'Walk in!' He said, 'My wife wants to have a tooth pulled and wants to take ether.' 'All right,' I said, 'walk right in this way' and ushered her into a small operating room and closed the door, as I had seen my preceptor do. After looking in her mouth and seeing which tooth she wanted extracted, I proceeded to administer ether and when she was completely asleep, I extracted the tooth. In due time, she recovered and as I look back at it now, my great

surprise is that she didn't die, but fate was kind to me.

"At the end of six months, I secured a position in a dental office where the dentist advertised his profession. I was hired as an expert in mechanical dentistry and as a professional anesthetist. At that time, I was between eighteen and nineteen years of age and administered anesthetics as often as fifteen times a day and averaged three a day for a year.

"His advertisements for mechanical dentistry read as follows:

Having recently secured increased facilities for executing every variety of Mechanical Dentistry known to Dentists (and I guess I was the increased facilities); Dr. Plum is now ready to insert one tooth or more—gum or plain, block or single, temporary or permanent, partial or complete—upon plates made from Gold, Silver, Amber, Rubber, Celluloid, Columbian, Pyroxiline, or Weston's Metallic Base, or on any other substitute desired by patients, or recommended by the Dental Profession. N. B.—Sets of Teeth made at our Laboratory for other Dentists.

"You can see by that advertisement what an expert I was. I had had six months practice, and most of the kinds of plates mentioned here, I had never heard of, and up to this day, have not seen all of them. It was a good experience and, as you know, 'experience is the best teacher.'

"The ninth of November, 1872, while away spending the Sunday in a suburb of Boston, the great Boston fire took place. My room where I lived contained a number of dental instruments, materials and books

pertaining to dentistry which I was gradually getting together with the hopes of going in business for myself. The place burned to the ground and everything lost. All that I owned at that moment was what I had on my back and in my small hand-bag.

"On January 1, 1873, I began the practice of dentistry on my own hook in my own office. I bought a few instruments and an old-fashioned second-hand wooden Archer chair and rented two rooms up one flight on Washington Street. The small hall-room was my operating room with the chair at the front window with the back part of the room screened off by a curtain for a laboratory. The large room was my reception room, bedroom, kitchen and parlor.

"Knowing Dr. Littlefield, the head of the dental department of Codman and Shurtleff's dental depot, I was able to buy twenty dollars worth of instruments on thirty days credit but long before the thirty days was up, I had them paid for and then bought another twenty dollars worth and kept going that way until I had a pretty good outfit.

"After renting my office, the next thing was to get patients and secure money enough to pay the rent which was six dollars a week. The first week was nearly gone, only one day left and I had to raise that enormous amount of six dollars. I didn't have a dollar in the office. Fortunately, that very evening a man came in to have a tooth

extracted and brought his wife and sister with him. I succeeded in extracting two teeth and filled two cavities that night and made an appointment for the next day with his wife for some fillings so that when the afternoon of rent day came I was reeking with money. I had thirteen dollars and needed only six to pay the rent. From that time on, my rent money was always ready when it was due.

"I always kept my office open evenings. I felt sure of getting much more business in the evening than during the day-time. The working people were out walking in the evenings and would be attracted by an open office. In that way, I picked up many dollars, operating by a large kerosene lamp, with a reflector throwing the light into the patient's face.

I always administered chloroform for the extraction of teeth whenever the patient was afraid to have the teeth extracted without an anesthetic. I had some pretty tough cases to work on, many of them were what we called, in Boston, the "South Cove toughs," including prize-fighters. When administering the chloroform, I always kept myself in readiness for an emergency and when the young tough would begin to fight, I would tip him clear back in the chair as far as it would go, throw my leg right over him and both arms around him with the sponge of chloroform directly over his nose and mouth and smother him down with my

chest pressed against it, holding the sponge in position and my arms around him binding him to the chair until he would be overcome.

"I remember well, one particularly bad case which I had. He fought so hard that he finally threw the chair backwards, upside down; he, the chair and myself were sprauled on the floor. I immediately grabbed my forceps and extracted two bicuspids while he lay on the floor fighting.

"Another case which is very clear in my mind was that of a man who kept a clothing store about a block away from the office. While administering chloroform to him, he dreamt that he was being held up by highway robbers and before I had time to grab him, he slipped out of the chair on the left side and darted out of the room. I made a dive for him and got his coat. He pulled away from me and pulled one arm out of his coat. It hung from one shoulder with the rubber apron which I always placed on my patents, covering them up so as to prevent their clothes from being spattered with blood. In this outfit, he rushed downstairs like lightning and I after him with my forceps in my pocket which I had grabbed before leaving the office. He reached his clothing store and immediately called for his revolver and then sat down on a box against a counter full of clothing. In a minute he was sound asleep and I woke him up by extracting his teeth. He then

told about his dream, that a gang of burglars were trying to overcome him and he was going to shoot them.

"Shortly after this I was able to procure a new gas outfit for the administering of what we called at that time, liquid gas. It was the beginning of the present system of gas in metal cylinders. Previous to that time, each dentist would make his own gas fresh every day in a large gas tank which looked something like two barrels, one sitting inside the other. He would draw the gas off in a bag and administer it. I had just secured my new gas outfit which I was very proud of. With my first patient, I got along beautifully but my second patient was a man six feet two and weighed close to two hundred pounds. He told me afterwards; he had taken two or three glasses of whiskey before coming in, so as to give him courage. Well, the kind of courage that he exhibited was when he was nearly asleep; he began to kick and fight and with his long legs he kicked out the office window and kicked my new gas apparatus off the table smashing it up badly. I succeeded in throwing him on the floor after our fight got along pretty well and there extracted seven teeth which were loose from pyorrhea. When I got through, he told me he was very sorry for the damage he did. He had only one dollar in his pocket to pay for the damage and the extracting of the

seven teeth and it cost me over forty.

"Soon after that my troubles increased when a well known rubber company began to worry me about taking out a license to vulcanize rubber. Up to that time, I had not vulcanized and would take work out to another dentist to do the vulcanizing for me. But the rubber company suspected that that was just what I was doing and threatened to bring suit against me unless I took out a license. They succeeded in forcing me to take out a license for which I had agreed to pay them forty-five dollars a year in five dollar a month installments. I never was able to escape paying and had a yearly license from that time until about 1881 or '82 when the dentists through the Protective Dental Association, with Dr. Crouse at its head, succeeded in defeating the rubber company and prevented them from getting a renewal or extension for the life of their patent.

"Soon afterwards I attended the Boston Dental College which was a few blocks from my office and there I learned a good many things which my preceptor had failed to teach me in order to "make me a first class dentist in six months." There were several things that I learned at college that have been of lasting benefit to me. One was the use of gold foil, both soft and cohesive. Dr. Weatherby, the president of the college, was one of the finest gold operators that America

ever produced. At the present time, I have two large compound approximal gold fillings in my bicuspid which were placed in my teeth by him at a clinic in the college in December, 1874.

"At that time, we knew little or nothing about germs and I remember well how Dr. Weatherby, the president, in speaking of different soft fillings, advised us to use in temporary fillings, a gutta-percha known as Hill's stopping. He recommended it for economy's sake for when it had served its purpose as a temporary filling, it could be removed and saved and placed in another tooth.

"In the spring of '75 when I graduated, I had to make up a set of artificial teeth. In those days everybody was making gum block teeth. Plain teeth were only supposed to be used in making temporary sets where the natural teeth would butt right up against the natural gums. In making my graduating set I proceeded to make a set of plain teeth with a pink rubber gum and when it was completed, I was very proud of the job. I showed it to the president, Dr. Weatherby, and he advised me by all means not to think of such a thing as presenting it but to make a nice set of gum block teeth. But feeling so proud of my work, I didn't like the idea, as I disliked gum teeth very much and presented my case to Dr. Lawrence, the professor of mechanical dentistry and told him what Dr. Weath-

erby had said. He accepted the plate and appeared pleased. This was the first set of plain teeth made by a student as a graduating set.

"In that class, we had some men who made great reputations in later years. Two of my most particular friends in the class were Dr. C. H. Osgood of Boston and Dr. R. R. Andrews of Cambridge who afterwards became two of the leading dentists in New England. Dr. Andrews had an international reputation as a microscopist and biologist and had degrees galore conferred upon him by institutions. Dr. George Ainsworth of Boston was another member who for forty years was one of Boston's leading dentists. Dr. G. B. Watkins of Detroit, Mich., for many years stood at the head of the profession there.

"I left Boston the spring of '76 and came to Montclair and for about a year was the only dentist in Montclair. While here I had my troubles with one of the leading rubber companies again when I ceased to take out a license and used celluloid in


place of rubber. Fortunately I had a little more courage than I had in the very early days and a better backing from the Dental Protective Association, which was a great organization and did wonderful work for the dental profession under the strong leadership of Dr. Crouse of Chicago."

Dr. Watkins joined the New Jersey State Dental Society in 1877 and the American Dental Association in 1879 and helped to organize the Central Dental Association of Northern New Jersey in 1880 and was its president in 1887. He was on the executive committee and had the honor of securing more papers for the C.D.A. than any other member for the first twenty years with the exception perhaps of Dr. C. A. Meeker.

He was elected president of the New Jersey State Dental Society in 1891 and was elected second vice-president of the American Dental Association in 1891 and re-elected in 1892 and 1893 and elected first vice-president in 1894 and was acting president in 1895. Yes, he reads ORAL HYGIENE!

The Patient Speaks

Most everything in dental magazines is written by dentists. Now the patient gets some space. "The Least Liked and the Best Liked Dentists I've Met," by Frank H. Williams, appears in an early ORAL HYGIENE.



First International Orthodontic Congress

THE original idea of holding an International Orthodontic Congress was conceived by Dr. William C. Fisher, President of the American Society of Orthodontia.

August 16th-20th at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, saw the fulfillment of this plan to bring together a great Orthodontic Congress.

Fifteen component societies endorsed the plan and heartily co-operated in making this Congress a fact.

The Congress did indeed record some of the most important scientific attainments of that specialty up to the present time and gave promise of wonderful possibilities for its further development.

There was something interesting going on each day. Fifty-one clinics covering every phase of Orthodontia and a number of educational, clinical classes were enthusiastically attended.

The American Museum of National History placed an interesting exhibit at the Congress.

There were 550 members registered at the Congress of which at least fifty were from foreign countries. Far off New Zealand and Australia were

there, the British Isles, France, Belgium and Italy were represented. Other countries shown on the roster were Spain, Holland, Norway, Sweden, South American, Japan and Germany.

Essays covering practically every phase of the science of orthodontia were presented by as many brilliant authors.

The banquet was a particularly enjoyable, impressive occasion. Tables were appropriately decorated with flags of all the nations and flowers, which together with the bright colors of the evening gowns of the ladies made the sight one long to be remembered.

The speakers consisted of those answering to the toast of their country, each of the foreign countries represented in the Congress being toasted. As each speaker arose the orchestra played the National Anthem of his country. Each received abundant applause. The gathering was dignified, impressive, and appropriate for an occasion so international in character.

This Congress was such a success that there was a unanimous demand for its continuance as a going concern. Arrangements were made for the second International Orthodontic Con-

gress to take place in Europe four or five years from now. London is making a strong bid for it as also is Paris.

International meetings of this character bring about close contacts and exchanges of scientific thought and its dissemination.

The splendid way in which

William C. Fisher, President-General; E. Santley Butler, Treasurer-General, and Walter H. Ellis, Secretary-General, handled this momentous undertaking, which was a marked success, is worthy of a tribute to their business-like methods and organizing ability.

Mr. Merwin B. Massol,
Business Mgr., ORAL HYGIENE,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear old Mass:

I would like to ask the Business Manager of ORAL HYGIENE a question, and I'd like a straight answer with no trying to "beat the devil around the bush." Is an editor of a dental journal above criticism, or is it the privilege of a *regular subscriber* to call the attention of an editor to his shortcomings?

Has a *SUBSCRIBER*—one who takes your journal year after year, and not only takes it but reads it as well — no rights in the matter? When he finds that the Editor is neglecting his duty, must he just sit still and champ his bit? Or has he the right to, in a calm and dignified manner, call upon the Editor for an explanation? That's what I, who have taken and read ORAL HYGIENE since the year one, want to know. If, however, here is where I should "get off," jut come out plainly and say so; but if not, then listen to my complaint.

As I take it, it is the duty of an editor not only to touch upon, take note of, and call attention to, the most important and interesting happenings in the dental world, but to expatiate upon them, when sufficiently important these happenings are. And right here is where Brother Rea has neglected his readers in a sinful manner.

Not so long ago, while in the East, this very Brother McGee, or Editor McGee, or whatever you

want to designate this person, did, in the quiet of the night, quickly and surreptitiously slip off and GET MARRIED. Then he again quietly—like the Arabs of old—folded his tent about his lady and himself and hied himself off to the wilds of Hollywood, and never once has he given us an editorial about the *NEWLYWEDS*.

Now then, Mr. Business Manager, what have you got to say about this Editor of yours, I'd like to know?

If the fifty-eight thousand readers of ORAL HYGIENE are satisfied, pleased, or delighted with that kind of treatment, all everyone has to do is to withdraw himself into his shell and keep quiet.

If, on the other hand, they will appreciate the gravity of the case and are not willing to stand for such treatment at the hands of a *mere editor*, then I beg and entreat these fifty-eight thousand readers, each and every one, to write immediately, if not sooner, to Brother McGee and tell him what they think about such carryings on, on his part, and that he has certainly got to explain matters to us, or we will "show him."

As for me, I have a forgiving spirit, and so I wish the newlyweds all kinds of success and happiness in the land of golden promise.

As ever,

EDDIE KELLS.

Dict. RF.

P. S.—Don't let this happen again, Brother McGee.



December
6th was
**George
Winter's
Day**

By MERWIN B. MASSOL



YESTERDAY was George Winter's day. Here was the man who blazes trails through the tangle of old ignorance, who has been willing not only to brave the petrified thorns of tradition and stodgy satisfaction with Things As They Are—but who has been willing also to risk the blow-guns, the poison-darts of the Dyaks.

The Dyaks, you know, are those naked, soiled sons of the Borneo fastness, who pot you from safe ambush with slim darts, poison-tipped.

Each calling has its Dyaks

and most of us are frightened of them and fear to pathfind lest we become pin-cushions for the Dyaks—targets for criticism, misunderstanding, hostile indifference.

But in every calling also there are a few serene, rare souls who move forward regardless of opposition, regardless of obstacles. Criticism spurs them. Obstacles invite them. They perceive in each fresh difficulty a fresh incentive.

And so, at last, the critics scurrying, the blow-guns trampled beneath scampering feet, so at last the thorny tangle of old ignorance is pierced and the light from the clearing shines

into the new path. New-found knowledge is spread before the pathfinder's followers and men acclaim him, seeing clearly, then, the wisdom of his striving.

Yesterday was George Winter's Day. Yesterday he was acclaimed. Yesterday we saw, for the first time clearly, the wisdom of his striving.

This is written December 7th, aboard the Pennsylvania, bound for Pittsburgh and January ORAL HYGIENE's waiting forms.

Humble business manager of this journal, I feel inadequate to the task, but Rea McGee, editor and bridegroom* is on the far side of the nation, so old Mass was obliged to rise to the occasion, and, as best he can, has riz. As soon as this issue is out, he will meet all critics, all Dyaks, catch-as-catch-can. Blow-guns to be left home. I'm no hero. I'd rather see than be one. Yesterday I saw one.

Yesterday, in St. Louis, several hundred dentists from all over America met to honor George Winter; and they did!

The afternoon session, presided over by President Alcorn of the St. Louis Dental Society, was devoted to a scientific program, opened by Dr. Frank W. Rounds, presenting "Radiographic Interpretation of the Various Types of Impacted Mandibular Third Molars From Which Definite Operative Technic Can Be Analyzed."

Following Dr. Rounds' brilliant handling of his subject—and it was handled brilliantly,

without notes, and minus ahems—following Frank Rounds came George himself—abashed at the great roar of applause that echoed from all corners of the big Statler assembly room—applause and greeting freely given by men from all corners of America.

Then George presented "Operative Technic for the Removal of Various Types of the Impacted Mandibular Third Molar," holding his audience spellbound to the end.

Dr. George C. Fahy terminated the program, presenting his highly interesting "Postoperative Treatment After the Removal of the Impacted Mandibular Third Molar."

Around six-thirty we met again, this time an even larger crowd.

At the speakers' table President Alcorn introduced Toastmaster J. P. Marshall—kindly, caustic wit—who, suspenderless, or so he said, was forced to gesture with one hand.

Dr. Henry L. Banzhaf, President of the A.D.A., was first to speak, his subject "Organized Dentistry," its debt to George Winter, whose power of vision, and the tireless, enthusiastic pursuit of that vision, whose "heart filled with the desire to serve," have meant so much to dentistry.

Then Toastmaster J. P. Marshall, pardonably proud, introduced his Grandfather, beloved Dean M. C. Marshall of the St. Louis Dental College,

*See page 46 of this issue.

who recalled George Winter, the student of other days, earnest, painstaking young George. Dean Marshall, welcomed as he rose with a free outpouring of applause, was touched deeply by the expressed love of his "boys"—many of whom, now gray themselves, are boys only in the recollection of days gone by, when they and the Dean were young.

Dr. Otto U. King, hard-working genius of the A.D.A. and its *Journal*, dealt with the "Dissemination of Knowledge," touching upon George's singleness of purpose, his relentless concentration, and its fruitage, not only to dentistry but to the millions throughout all the world, afflicted with impactions, who are the chief beneficiaries of the Winter research.

Otto King once asked George Winter how he had managed to develop so high a degree of concentration. "It dates way back," said George, "back to a day when some other children and I went blackberrying with my mother. It was my first blackberrying experience and I didn't know how to go about it. The others were running from bush to bush, here and there.

"Choose a good bush and stick to your bush, my boy," said mother. And so I did and that evening mine was the full basket."

Dr. King spoke of the Ladder-Shakers, folks who fear to climb, who stand below and jiggle the ladder, seeking to topple the courageous climber The Lad-

der-Shakers must be first-cousins of my Dyaks. But they didn't succeed in dislodging George.

Dr. C. R. Grissinger, first student of George Winter, came next to tell of the thirteen years of research which preceded the publication of *Exodontia*, an identical period of time, singularly enough, having been devoted to the research which has now been given the dental world in the new *Principles of Exodontia as Applied to the Impacted Mandibular Third Molar*, which, like the first research, brings new-found relief to suffering mankind.

What, one is inclined to wonder, will George Winter give us in 1939?

President W. F. Whalen, of the Illinois Society, responding to the toast, "Illinois," recalled the days when he and George Winter barnstormed together—recalled how in those far days George stuck to his guns and could not be swerved from his objective.

Dr. R. Boyd Bogle, of Nashville, responded to "Under Southern Skies," and, in rich Tennessean, told some wonderful negro stories.

And then Don Gallie and Scotch stories; Don at his best!

I won't steal the pleasure of future dental banqueteers by repeating here any of the grand yarns these boys spun.

Toward the end of a perfect day George was called upon to respond—to emerge mentally from beneath the tributes heaped upon him, to respond when

the applause had at last subsided.

And with characteristic humility and wonted modesty he thanked his friends.

So closed George Winter's Day—his perfect day.

Its perfection was in no small measure due to the men who

took responsibility for details, large and small—Dr. E. B. Owen, aided by Dr. J. D. White and Dr. E. H. Keys.

If folks ever decide to ring a day on the calendar for me (which is not very likely), I hope this trio is selected to do the work.



Be sure to visit ORAL HYGIENE's booth at the
Chicago Dental Society Meeting this month.

Editorials

REA PROCTOR McGEE, D.D.S., M.D., Editor

Manuscripts and letters to the Editor should be addressed to him at 514 Hollywood Security Bldg., Los Angeles, California. All business correspondence and routine editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Publication Office of Oral Hygiene, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Bullets and Bacteria

THE insurance company that carries Benito Mussolini's accident policy must stay awake nights — incidentally it might be a good idea for the Italian premier to keep the premiums paid up. One thing is quite certain—as long as he is not hit he is not hurt.

The problem of life-risking in other ways, though, is quite different—most of us gasp a bit every time a poorly prepared assassin takes a shot at a public man. We are rather thankful that the attention of cranks is not directed toward us and yet all of us, dentist as well as layman, go calmly along carrying infections about that are sure to get us eventually.

Bullets either hit or miss. Either the lead pellet does a lot of harm or no harm. Bacteria of the pus-producing type always do damage. The Bacillus is properly prepared for his assassinating job. The only safety is in the complete elimination of pus from our organisms.

You would think that when a person goes

into the assassinating business he would learn to shoot straight. The poor job that most of them do is proof that the opinions of criminologists are right.

The scientific students of crime universally believe that criminals are mentally defective and are not capable of normal development. The gunmen having reached the same conclusion now depend on machine-guns that obviate the necessity for keen eyes and steady nerves in their killings. They simply shoot a stream of bullets that are bound to hit somebody.

Machine guns and bacteria work more on the same plan it would seem. How is it that the United States is so busy with the morals of law-abiding people that they can't prevent the sale of machine-guns to bandits?

A wrong left turn or any other infraction of the traffic laws is more surely punished than a murder in this land of the free.

Out of one hundred and ten gunman murders in Chicago only one man was arrested. Out of one hundred and ten traffic violations in the same town one hundred and fifty citizens were arrested and fined.

One of the great reasons for the contempt in which the alleged law-enforcing machinery of this country is held is the injustice of the traffic courts and the constant irritation of law-abiding citizens by police who should be chasing bandits and burglars.

Of course, the bandits might fight back and the law-abiding citizen doesn't—self-

preservation is the first law. Maybe that is the law that the police are most interested in.

Dr. William Smedley

IT is with the most sincere regret that ORAL HYGIENE learns of the death of Dr. William Smedley of Denver. He was the young old man of the dental profession. His life is not only an inspiration to his profession but his long years of mental and physical activity are an encouragement to those who believe that life is too short.

Dr. Smedley was a splendid dentist and a wonderful man. He was one of the few men in the world who went through life without an enemy. Let us hope there will be more men like him—both in and out of the dental profession.

Microscopic Radio

THE Cleveland *Plain Dealer* tells about a retired dentist, Dr. Fre-naye, who is a very clever constructor of miniature radio sets and suggests that he might combine his two lines of endeavor so that he could construct a radio set that would fit the cavity in a carious tooth. This would be in some ways a very popular departure. Take for instance a speaker at a banquet; one of those men who

never knows what to say. If he had a radio set in his mouth he could tune in on a banquet where there was a real orator and get away with a speech that would knock the home folks "cuckoo."

The Mary Ann who has an ambition to sing could have her radio in the porcelain shell crown on her left upper undeveloped lateral incisor and by tuning in on the Metropolitan Grand Opera could surprise the natives at a Sunday school picnic. If there was a heavy static, she could be tempermental and prove her artistic nature.

The aerial would be made with a trained hair. Bald headed men could string a wire in the hat. So "that is that" as Linford would say.

One thing is quite certain—there is a lot of useless space going to waste in decayed teeth. The best idea so far is to carefully fill them with due attention to cavity preparation and restoration of contour. Anyway, so long as people will write and talk about teeth, somebody will occasionally go to the dentist.

Excuse Him, Lord!



THE real preachers must be embarrassed when the clerical descendants of Baalam's fiery steed open up their mouths and bray.

In an attack upon "science" the Rev. Dr. Lloyd A. Douglas of Akron, Ohio, thus de-

livered himself, according to the Associated Press report:

"It is not religion's fault if the doctors bled George Washington to death, or religion's fault if the dentists put a battery of false teeth into his mouth which restricted the great man's rations to consomme during the latter years of his life."

As a matter of fact the first President lost his teeth from pyorrhea. Whether or not that is a religious disease we can leave to the learned divine.

Dr. Isaac Greenwood who was a good Episcopalian and probably also a fundamentalist made George Washington a set of teeth which enabled him to eat a lot of things in addition to his consomme. He also drank some of the beverage to which our reverend anti-scientist is opposed—drank regular anti-volstead booze over those teeth.

Of course George Washington wouldn't do such a thing now but do you suppose he would have been such a good churchman now?

Really, Reverend, I would like to let you in on a little secret. Science and religion have nothing to do with each other. They are as far apart as the poles and just about as cold.

This begins Volume 17 of ORAL HYGIENE, despite the fact that the last issue was indicated as Number 12 of Volume 15. Somebody in the publication office must have been dozing when page proofs were okayed!

Laffodontia

If you have a story that appeals to you as funny, send it in to the editor. He may print it—but he won't send it back.

"Why so pensive dear?" asked the dentist's wife.

"I'm trying to think what it was I used to worry about before I bought this blamed bargain x-ray."

ARDENT GOLFER (trying to get on his pet topic of conversation): "May I ask—er—what is your handicap?"

STRANGER (sadly): "Wife and eight children."

One gossip to another—"Huh, a fine housekeeper she'll make—she with no hairpins to see if the sausages are done."

SAINT PETER: "Please sign your name in the register before entering."

AVIATOR: "I've already registered. I was a sky writer."

"I know Bill loves me. He said I was one girl in a million."

"Ah, but he said I was one in five."

"I've just heard your son was an undertaker. I thought you said he was a physician."

"Not at all. I just said he followed the medical profession."

"Under separate cover," wrote the Steinway Company, "we are shipping you a piano."

"Abie, your shirt tail is out."

"Out. Vere iss it out?"

"Out vere de vest begins."

There is only one man more annoying than the person who turns off the lights at a party, and that is the one who turns them on again.

BARBER—"Wet or dry?"

RUBE—"You cut my hair and never mind what my politics are."

DENTAL DEALER: "Are you the boss of this office?"

CLERK: "N-n-n-no s-sir."

DENTAL DEALER: "Then don't act like a driveling idiot."

"Before he married me, he said he'd move Heaven and earth for me."

"And then?"

"Oh, now he's raising Hell."